

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 12-13 and 15-17 were rejected. Claims 1-9, 11 and 18 were allowed. The Examiner objected to claim 14 but indicated that the claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. By the present response, claim 12 has been amended and claim 14 has been canceled without prejudice. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-9, 11-13 and 15-18 will remain pending in the present patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action summarizes claims 12-13 and 15-17 as rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Martin. (U.S. Patent No. 5,545,007).

By the present response claim 12 is amended and claim 14 is canceled. Independent claim 12 has been amended to incorporate features originally recited in claim 14, indicated as allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, claim 12 and its dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/9/2006

29
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